

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1, 3, 5 through 7, 12, 17, and 20 through 29 remain pending in the application, with Claims 1, 12, and 17 being independent. Claims 1, 12, and 17 have been amended to even more succinctly define the invention and/or to improve their form. Claims 2, 4, 8 through 11, 13 through 16, 18, and 19 have been previously cancelled. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the original disclosure, and for example, at least at page 39, line 9 to page 41, line 23. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been presented.

Applicant notes that on the Office Action Summary under the Disposition of Claims and on Page 2 under Status of the Claims that Claims 23 and 25 were not listed as pending. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 23 and 25 are pending and notes that on page 6 of the Office Action dated May 14, 2010 that Claims 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 12, 20, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alsop (U.S. Patent No. 6,795,829 B2) in view of Baker (U.S. Patent No. 7,127,433 B2).

Claims 5, 7, 21, 23, 25, and 27 through 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alsop and Baker in view of Furukawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,029,238).

Claims 3 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alsop and Baker in view of Furukawa and Kajita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,706).

Claims 6 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alsop and Baker in view of Nakata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,227,659 B2).

The rationale underlying each of the rejections is succinctly set forth in the Office Action.

Response to Claim Rejections

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention as recited in Claim 1 relates to an information processing apparatus for managing an image processing apparatus having a plurality of operation modes including a first operation mode which involves a print output operation and a second operation mode which does not involve a print output operation, the information processing apparatus comprising a counting unit that counts a page outputting number for the first operation mode, a timing unit that times an operation time for the second operation mode, a memory unit that stores a power consumption amount per page for the first operation mode and a power consumption amount per unit time for the second operation mode, a calculation unit that calculates a power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the first operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per page stored by the memory unit and the page outputting number counted by the counting unit and that calculates a power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the second operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per unit time stored by the memory unit and the operation time timed by the timing unit, and a preparation unit that prepares statistical information concerning the power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the first operation mode calculated by the

calculation unit and the power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus the second operation mode calculated by the calculation unit.

A benefit of the invention as recited in Claim 1 is that the power consumption amount is calculated by different calculation modes for respective operation modes. In other words, the invention counts the page outputting number for the first mode which involves a print output operation, and times the operation time for the second operation mode which does not involve a print output operation, and then calculates the power consumption amount for the first operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per page stored and the counted pages and calculates the power consumption amount for the second operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per unit time and the operation time.

Alsop discloses the calculating of a power consumption amount of an image processing apparatus by multiplying a power consumption amount per unit time stored by a memory unit and an operation time timed by a timing unit. Baker discloses the calculating of a power consumption amount of an image processing apparatus by multiplying a power consumption amount per page stored by a memory unit and a page outputting number counted by a counting unit. However, neither Alsop nor Baker disclose or suggest an apparatus where the power consumption amount is calculated by different calculation methods for different operation modes and that statistical information is prepared concerning the power consumption amount from both operation modes.

In other words, Alsop and Baker fail to disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus for managing an image processing apparatus having a plurality of operation modes including a first operation mode which involves a print output operation and a second operation mode which does not involve a print output operation, the information processing apparatus

comprising, *inter alia*, a calculation unit that calculates a power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the first operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per page stored by the memory unit and the page outputting number counted by the counting unit and that calculates a power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the second operation mode by multiplying the power consumption amount per unit time stored by the memory unit and the operation time timed by the timing unit, and a preparation unit that prepares statistical information concerning the power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus for the first operation mode calculated by the calculation unit the power consumption amount of the image processing apparatus the second operation mode calculated by the calculation unit, as recited in Claim 1.

Furukawa, Kajita et al., and Nakata et al. are cited in the Office Action as allegedly disclosing various other features of Applicants' claimed invention. However, Furukawa, Kajita et al., and Nakata et al. fail to remedy the deficiencies of Alsop and Baker with respect to independent Claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that none of Alsop, Baker, Furukawa, Kajita et al., and Nakata et al., whether taken individually or in combination, can be understood to disclose or suggest all of the features of the information processing apparatus recited in independent Claim 1 of the present application. Independent Claims 12 and 17 recite similar features to independent Claim 1, and are believed patentable for reasons similar to independent Claim 1.

For the reasons discussed above, the claimed invention is believed to be patentable over the cited art.

Dependent Claims

Claims 3, 5 through 7, and 20 through 29 are either directly or indirectly dependent from one of independent Claims 1 or 12 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency and in their own right for further defining the invention. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the application are earnestly solicited.

It is believed that no fee is required for this Amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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